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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/824,145	04/13/2004	Masahiro Kisono	2271/72197	6384
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EXAMINER				
ANWARI, MACEEH				
ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER		
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/824,145

Applicant(s)

KISONO, MASAHIRO

Examiner

MACEEH ANWARI

Art Unit

2444

Period for Reply -- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 08 September 2009.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2,5-8,11-14 and 16-21 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2,5-8,11-14 and 16-21 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB06)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 5) ☐ ~~Notes of Informal Patent Application~~
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is in response to communications filed on 9/08/2009. **Claim(s) 1-2, 7, 13-14 and 16-17** have been amended. **Claim(s) 3-4, 9-10 and 15** have been canceled and **claim(s) 18-21** have been newly added. No other claims have been amended, added, or canceled. Accordingly, **claim(s) 1-2, 5-8, 11-14 and 16-21** are pending.

Response to Arguments

2. Applicant's arguments filed 9/08/2009 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. In substance the applicant argues that **Onaga** and **Ohnishi** fails to teach or disclose: a) a network terminal apparatus that receives setting information directly from another network terminal apparatus; b) the setting information received from said another network terminal apparatus corresponds to settings of said another network terminal apparatus; c) a setting unit of the network terminal apparatus sets the network terminal apparatus in accordance with the received setting information.
3. In response to a), the examiner respectfully disagrees. Applicant's use of the terms "network terminal apparatus" is rather broad and as such interpreted broadly to include any apparatus that is pertains (or is connected) to a network. Therefore, the examiner asserts that **Onaga** disclosure of requesting storing and updating status/setting changes between network apparatuses (**fig. 6-7**) reads on a).
4. In response to b) & c), the examiner respectfully disagrees. The examiner asserts that **Onaga** disclosure of requesting from the file server (i.e. a network

apparatus) to transmit setting information to the Host (i.e. yet another network terminal apparatus) and updating setting changes accordingly.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

5. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

6. **Claims 1-2, 7-8 and 11-14** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by **Onaga (U.S. Patent No.: 6,266,693 B1)**.

7. Regarding **claim 1**, **Onaga** teaches: a network terminal apparatus connected to other network terminal apparatuses via a network, the network terminal apparatus comprising:

a memory (**Fig. 2; RAM, ROM and Disk**);

an acquiring unit that transmits a command requesting setting information to another network terminal apparatus, and receives the setting information from said another network terminal apparatus in response to said command (**Figures 5-8; request/receive status information, display and provide setting changes**);

a setting unit that sets the network terminal apparatus in accordance with the received setting information, and stores the received setting information, and

stores the received setting information in the memory (**Figures 7-8; update host with setting information**); and

a transmitting unit that retrieves the setting information from the memory, in response to receipt of an acquisition request from a third network terminal apparatus, requesting the setting information stored in the memory, and transmits the retrieved setting information to said third network terminal apparatus in response to said acquisition request (**Figures 7-8; requesting status updates and getting setting changes and storing**),

wherein said network terminal apparatus receives the setting information directly from said another network terminal apparatus, and the setting information received from said another network terminal apparatus corresponds to settings of said another network terminal apparatus (**Figures 7-8; requesting status updates and getting setting changes and storing**).

8. **Claim 2:** Wherein the command from the acquiring unit specifies a designated item of the setting information, and the network terminal apparatus receives the designated item from said another network terminal apparatus (**Figures 7-8; requesting status updates and getting setting changes and storing**).

9. Regarding **claims 7- 8 & 11-14** they are substantially the same as **claims 1-2** and are thus rejected for reasons similar to those in rejecting **claims 1-2**.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

10. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

11. **Claims 5- 6, and 16- 21** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over **Onaga (U.S. Patent No.: 6,266,693 B1)**, and further in view of **Ohnishi et al. (hereinafter Ohnishi, U.S. Patent No.: 5, 655,152)**.

12. Regarding **claim 5**, **Onaga** discloses the invention as described above, however does not appear to disclose wherein the network terminal apparatus, further comprising: a transforming unit that transforms the received setting information into format-adjusted setting information, if format of the received setting information does not match format of the network terminal apparatus, transforms the received setting information into format-adjusted setting information; wherein the setting unit sets the format-adjusted setting information to the network terminal apparatus and stores the format-adjusted setting information in the memory.

In the same field of endeavor, **Ohnishi** discloses the invention as described above, wherein the network terminal apparatus, further comprising: a transforming unit that transforms the received setting information into format-adjusted setting information, if format of the received setting information does not match format of the network terminal apparatus, transforms the received setting information into format-adjusted setting information (**Abstract; selecting an available data output and adequate data format**); wherein the setting unit sets the format-adjusted setting information to the network terminal apparatus and stores the format-adjusted setting information in the memory (**Abstract and figures 1-8; output managing unit**).

One of ordinary skill in the art would have combined **Ohnishi's** teachings of managing output data formats with the teachings of **Onaga** to make for a more compatible and efficient overall communication system (**Abstract**).

13. Regarding **claim 6 Onaga-Ohnishi** further disclose: Wherein the transforming unit transforms the received setting information based on style sheet that defines an attribute of each element of the setting information (**Ohnishi: Abstract; selecting an available data output and adequate data format**).

The motivation for combining **Onaga** and **Ohnishi** would have been the same as in **claim 5**.

14. Regarding **claim 16 Onaga-Ohnishi** further disclose: said another one of the other network terminal apparatuses is set based on the setting information received by said another one of the other network terminal apparatuses from said network terminal apparatus (**Onaga: Figures 4-8; status updates/checks and setting changes**).

The motivation for combining **Onaga** and **Ohnishi** would have been the same as in **claim 5**.

15. Regarding **claim 17 Onaga-Ohnishi** further disclose: wherein the network terminal apparatus receives the setting information from the one of the other network terminal apparatuses in response to the setting information requesting command transmitted by the network terminal apparatus to the one of the other network terminal apparatuses, and the network terminal apparatus transmits the setting information to said another one of the other network terminal apparatuses in response to the acquisition request from said another one of the other network terminal apparatuses

(Onaga: Figures 4-8; information/status requests and getting setting changes and making setting change).

The motivation for combining **Onaga** and **Ohnishi** would have been the same as in **claim 5**.

16. Regarding **claim 18 Onaga-Ohnishi** further disclose: wherein the setting information received by the network terminal apparatus from said another network terminal apparatus includes information indicating a device model version of said another network terminal apparatus, and wherein if the device model version of said another network terminal apparatus does not match a device model version of the network terminal apparatus, a transforming unit of the network terminal apparatus transforms the received setting information from said another network terminal apparatus into setting information suitable for the network terminal apparatus and the setting unit sets the network terminal apparatus based on the transformed setting information (**Ohnishi: Abstract; selecting an available data output and adequate data format**).

The motivation for combining **Onaga** and **Ohnishi** would have been the same as in **claim 5**.

17. Regarding **claim 19 Onaga-Ohnishi** further disclose: wherein said transforming unit transforms the received setting information from said another network terminal apparatus based on a stylesheet corresponding to the device model version of the network terminal apparatus (**Ohnishi: Abstract; selecting an available data output and adequate data format**).

The motivation for combining **Onaga** and **Ohnishi** would have been the same as in **claim 5**.

18. Regarding **claims 20 -21** they are substantially the same as **claims 5-6 and 16-19** and are thus rejected for reasons similar to those in rejecting **claims 5-6 and 16- 19**.

Conclusion

19. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to **MACEEH ANWARI** whose telephone number is (571)272-7591. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 7:30-5:00 PM ES.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, William Vaughn can be reached on 571-272-3922. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

M.A.

/Yemane Mesfin/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2444